

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ATHENS 07236 031931Z

44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 L-03 H-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 MC-02

DRC-01 ACDA-19 SAM-01 /105 W

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P R 031750Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5761

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T ATHENS 7236

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MPOL, GR, TU

SUBJ: PROVISION OF U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND THE AEGEAN
BALANCE OF POWER.

REF: (A) STATE 212196; (B) USUN 3576

1. ALTHOUGH I HAD MET DEFENSE MINISTER AVEROFF BRIEFLY
EARLIER, I MADE MY FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO HIM WEDNESDAY
AFTERNOON, OCT. 2. POL/MIL OFFICER PUGH ACCOMPANIED ME.
MEETING LAST ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS AND A RANGE OF
MATTERS WAS DISCUSSED, BEING REPORTED SEPTELS.

2. I CONVEYED TO AVEROFF THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE
ALLOCATION OF A LARGER NUMBER OF QUAD .50 CAL AA WEAPONS
AND ALSO EXPLAINED THAT THE USG AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO
THE TRANSFER OF SHIPS WHICH THE HELLENIC NAVY WISHED TO
ACQUIRE. I NOTED THAT WE WERE LOOKING URGENTLY INTO
SHIP AVAILABILITIES AND THE TRANSFERS WOULD BE SUBJECT TO
PRIOR CONGRESSIONAL APPROVAL.

3. AVEROFF WAS OBVIOUSLY GRATIFIED AT THIS INDICATION
OF SUPPORT AND EXPLAINED AT SOME LENGTH THAT GREECE UNDER
NO CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD ATTACK TURKEY. HE WISHED THE USG

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PAGE 02 ATHENS 07236 031931Z

TO BE REASSURED ON THIS COUNT. HOWEVER, THE DISPARITY

OF MILITARY POWER, HE FELT, MADE TURKISH MOVES TO REALIZE
ITS AIMS IN THE AEGEAN MUCH MORE LIKELY, AND THUS, IT WAS
IMPORTANT THAT GREECE'S FORCES BE STRENGTHENED AS A
POSSIBLE FURTHER DETERRENT.
KUBISCH

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NNN

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